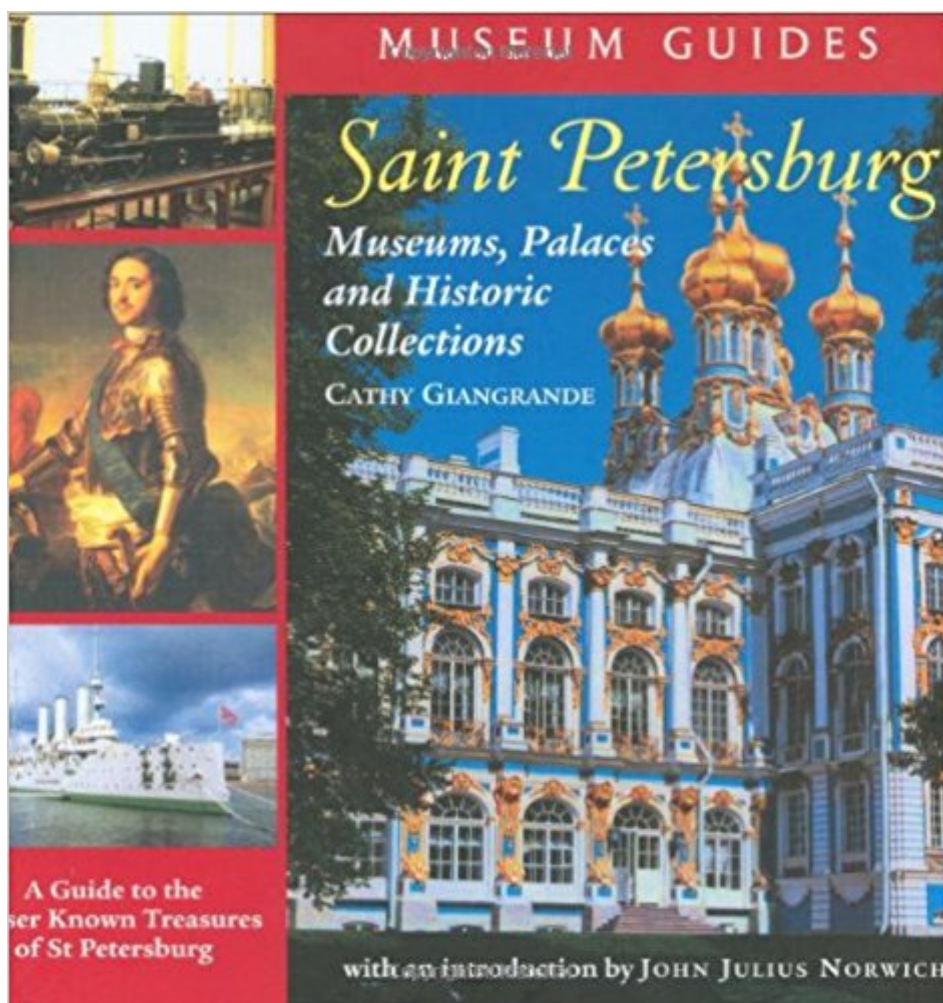


The book was found

# Saint Petersburg: Museums, Palaces, And Historic Collections



## Synopsis

Saint Petersburg is, as we all agree, one of the most beautiful cities of Europe; but because of its chequered twentieth century history, it is still one of the least well known. For most of us Saint Petersburg is no more than an acquaintance. We are still getting to know it and for such a purpose we need all the help we can lay our hands on. You now hold in your hands the first guide book exclusively devoted to the lesser known museums in the city. It will tell you what they are, where they are, when they are open and what you can expect to find in them. It will open a new world, a Saint Petersburg that lies behind the great palaces and churches; that has seen much, experienced much and suffered much; and that is prepared to reveal its secrets to anyone who takes the trouble to investigate and inquire.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 96 pages

Publisher: Bunker Hill Publishing Inc (September 17, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1593730004

ISBN-13: 978-1593730000

Product Dimensions: 6.2 x 0.6 x 7.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,167,281 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #14 in [Books > Travel > Asia > Russia > St. Petersburg](#) #212 in [Books > Travel > Asia > Russia > General](#) #1694 in [Books > Travel > Europe > General](#)

## Customer Reviews

Cathy Giangrande is an art historian and archaeological conservator. She is the author of the TV series *Unseen Treasures* in the UK and has co-authored *The Essential Guide to Collectibles*. She works on Russian projects for the World Monuments Fund. John Julius Norwich is a writer and Chairman of the World Monuments Fund in Britain.

As the founder of a company devoted to business and cultural travel to Russia, it pains me that so many tourists come to St. Petersburg for a day or two and only visit the Hermitage, Peterhof, and a ballet. Russia is like a Fabergé egg—a beautiful exterior with a hard-to-open but spectacular hidden interior. Among the little known gems in St. Petersburg are the Museum of Theatrical and

Musical Arts, the Nabokov Museum (former residence of Vladimir Nabokov), the Russian Ethnographic Museum, the Rimskii-Korsakov Memorial Apartment-Museum, the History of Religion Museum (formerly the "Anti-Religion Museum), the recently-opened Museum of Toys, and the Museum of Russian Vodka. All these treasures and more are fondly catalogued in Cathy Giangrande's Saint Petersburg: Museums Palaces and Historic Collections (Museums). To appreciate this book a traveler needs to understand the unintentional irony of the chapter titled "Also well worth a visit are ..." listing the Hermitage Museum, one of the world's premier cultural treasures (and the most popular tourist site in Russia). It makes a great companion to such guides as DK Eyewitness's St. Petersburg guidebook (far more sights and coverage of the Hermitage, but without lengthy descriptions of lesser-known museums). Its small size makes this a "laptray book", but for the visitor in body or spirit to St. Petersburg is just as enthralling as a five pound coffee table book. One-to-four pages are devoted to each of the over 40 lesser known attractions in St. Petersburg. Each listing had a clear address, directions, phone and web site (if available). Books like this will help St. Petersburg, and Russia, become one of the world's premier tourist destinations in the next 10 years. There are literally thousands of such treasures throughout Russia as these listed here, but few people know about them. Truly, this book will help anyone interested in truly discovering Russia.

It's a nice little book on one of my favorite cities. I consider the book as a good beginning for those who want to discover all the treasures of St. Petersburg. There are more than 200 museums and their branches in the city. I have no idea what were the criteria for selecting those museums for the book but I decided to add more of them that, to the best of my knowledge, are available and could be of interest to travelers. Here they are:

- \* Museum of Applied Arts
- \* Museum of Music
- \* Museum of Dolls
- \* Museum of Non-Conformist Art
- \* Museum of Beer
- \* Museum of Hygiene
- \* Museum of Water
- \* Museum of Porcelain
- \* Monument to the Heroic Defenders of Leningrad
- \* Kresty Prison Museum
- \* Rumyantsev Estate Museum
- \* Memorial Museum of Ivan Pavlov
- \* Memorial Museum of Alexander Blok
- \* Memorial Museum of Feodor Chaliapin
- \* Memorial Museum of Joseph Brodsky
- \* Museum of Erotica
- \* Yusupovsky Palace
- \* Mining Institute Museum
- \* Popov Museum of Communications
- \* Museum of Electrical Transport of St. Petersburg
- \* Marinesco Museum of Submarine Forces
- \* Museum of Political Police of Russia
- \* Museum of Coffee
- \* Museum of Playing Cards
- \* Museum of Subway of St. Petersburg
- \* Submarine S-189
- \* Icebreaker "Krasin"
- \* Museum of the Guards
- \* Benois Family Museum
- \* Museum of Wax Sculptures
- \* Museum of Heraldry and Decorations
- \* Dokuchayev Central Soil Science Museum

So as you see from the list above the book should be at least twice thicker than it is now. Hopefully it will be in the next edition.

I happened on this wonderful book by reading all the reviews written by one of its reviewers. It is small, light weight and so very easy to use. The pictures are beautiful. We went to St. Petersburg last December with the book in hand. Each night we decided where to go the next day. Planning is important because each museum is usually closed at least one day a week. Unfortunately the museums were so interesting, that we often stayed way longer than we planned to. We never would have gone to some of the museums had we not had this little book. We especially liked the maps showing the location of each museum in relation to the others. Because of this book, we will return to St. Petersburg in the off season and enjoy many more of its amazing little museums -- after all what better way is there to spend a cold December day?

This dainty size guide book has brief descriptions about what the nineteenth century presidential Adams knew. The Adams family knew very little about nineteenth century Japan, but we compare them to Townsend Harris, and next we can find my Japan guidebooks at .com. I have guide books of Spain's Prado also. When will everyday New Yorkers wake up?

Just a hard back book listing the other museums in St. Petersburg. Good overview, but the same information could be found on the web if you have time.

From page one to the end, this book sets out to give the greatest coverage of the many sights of St. Petersburg. It consists of setting out one chapter each to the most significant aspects of the city's historic buildings that a traveler would want to see and experience. Details are well presented and they are an easy read. Also the photos and illustrations are the barest that one would need for the purpose.

Didn't use much---only visited two of the three sites listed in the small book. The photos were lovely. Could have done without.

Beautifully done!

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